

REMARKS

Applicant's Amendment-After-Final filed by fax on December 28, 2005 was denied entry for raising new issues, as indicated in the Advisory action mailed February 9, 2006. A request for continued examination is filed herewith and entry of the December 28, 2005 amendment has been requested.

Interview

Examiner Azad's courtesy in arranging and conducting a further telephone interview with the undersigned, on February 24, 2006, is greatly appreciated by applicant. The interview is believed helpful in advancing the prosecution of this application. During that interview, proposals for amendment of base claim 40, which proposals are believed reflected in the amendments now presented, were discussed.

Amended Claims

Base claim 40 has now been amended pursuant to what was discussed in the telephone interview. With the new clause added to the end of the claim, base claim 40 now explicitly recites the relationship between the phrase-matching features recited in claim 40 and the objective of the claim which is to provide an improved speech recognition method. As set forth in the additional claim language this goal is achieved by enabling properly pronounced phrases in the input speech to be recognized and by avoiding system determination of properly pronounced phrases as mispronunciations of phrases. Base claim 57 has been similarly amended.

Support for this language can be found in the disclosure as a whole, at page 24, lines 1-14, reading as follows:

"More particularly, as discussed above, after the system has proceeded through the performance of steps 14, 18, 20, 22, 24 and 26, and the speech recognition engine, editing and training utilities added, the system proceeds at step 28 to receive, through a microphone, speech to be recognized from a user of the program who has loaded the speech recognition engine, editing

and training utilities, and database of word models, phrase models, vocal recordings, and error models onto the user's personal computer. In this respect, the operation of the speech recognition program of the present invention is substantially identical to other speech recognition programs presently on the market. More particularly, at step 30, a conventional speech recognition algorithm is applied to recognize audible sounds as the words which they are meant to represent.

The computer then outputs the recognized speech on the screen of the computer.."

noting the underlined text, at page 30, lines 11-12 and in Figure 1, noting reference numerals 22, 28, 30, and 44. The added language does not narrow the claims and merely makes explicit subject matter that was inherent in the respective claim before amendment.

Information Disclosure

Commonly owned and recently issued US Patent No. 6,963,841 to Handal et al. is made of record herewith. The claims of the present application are believed clearly and patentably distinguished from the claims of US 6,963,841 noting that the reference claims are directed to a speech training method whereas the claims herein are directed to a method of speech recognition and a computerized system for performing speech recognition.

In view of the above amendments and the discussion relating thereto, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application, is in condition for allowance. Such action is most earnestly solicited. If for any reason the Examiner feels that consultation with Applicant's attorney would be helpful in the advancement of the prosecution, he is invited to call the telephone number below for an interview.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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Certificate of Transmission

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